

VZCZCXYZ0005  
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHRB #1987 2961632  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
P 231632Z OCT 06  
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5022  
INFO RUEHXX/ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0632

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 001987

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/23/2016  
TAGS: [UNGA](#) [LE](#) [IS](#) [MA](#) [PHUM](#) [PTER](#)  
SUBJECT: UNGA RESOLUTIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND CHILDREN IN  
LEBANON

REF: STATE 176793

Classified by Acting Political Counselor Ian McCary for  
reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

¶1. (C) In an October 23 meeting with Nasser Bourita, the  
MFA's Director-General for UN and Multilateral Affairs,  
A/Polcouns urged that Morocco vote against items 63 (a) and  
67 (b), in the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly  
(reftel).

¶2. (C) Bourita replied that Morocco understood U.S. concerns  
and shared them. These resolutions, and other similar ones  
drafted by the Arab Group and then adopted for sponsorship by  
the NAM countries were outmoded, repetitive, and "fail to  
take into account evolutions in the international  
environment," Bourita opined. Morocco has made these  
arguments within Arab Group meetings but other, louder voices  
have prevailed, he lamented.

¶3. (C) Pressed as to whether Morocco would vote against these  
two resolutions or not, Bourita, slightly sheepishly, replied  
that he expected Morocco would vote with the Arab Group  
consensus. In spite of Morocco's reservations, he explained,  
the GOM feels bound by consensus positions taken at Arab  
League summits and other fora, and would probably be  
reluctant to openly break ranks with the Arab Group on this  
issue. Ultimately, the decision will be made above his  
level, Bourita added, and he promised to communicate U.S.  
views to his superiors in the Ministry and to his colleagues  
in New York.

¶4. (C) "Your demarche comes late to affect deliberations this  
year," Bourita opined. He suggested that rather than lobby  
against specific resolutions while the General Assembly is in  
session, the U.S. would be better served by lobbying the Arab  
Group on broader principles continuously during the course of  
the year. "We could work with you in that process," he  
offered.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Visit Embassy Rabat's Classified Website;  
<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/nea/rabat>  
\*\*\*\*\*

Riley